

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A cutter head for a microkeratome, the head including a guide housing for an alternating cutter blade having a cutting edge, a rear edge, and two side edges, the
5 housing having two parallel pairs of faces that are spaced apart by a distance substantially equal to the thickness of the blade and that are situated respectively in the vicinity of the cutting edge and the vicinity of the rear edge of the blade, wherein each of the pairs of
10 parallel faces is of a length measured parallel to the cutting edge that is shorter than the distance between the lateral edges of the blades in register therewith, minus the peak-to-peak amplitude of the reciprocating oscillation.
- 15 2. A cutter head according to claim 1, wherein the end of each guide face facing towards the side of the head via which the blade is inserted into the head is chamfered.
- 20 3. A cutter head according to claim 1, wherein the profile of each of the parallel faces of the pair of faces adjacent to the cutting edge of the blade presents a central setback.